

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04113 270845 Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /068 W

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R 270759 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8543

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4113

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, KS, KN, JA

SUBJECT: ROKG REACTION TO JAPANESE PRESS LEAKS ON FOREIGN
POLICY STATEMENT

REF: SEOUL 4019

1. MINISTER OF CULTURE AND PUBLIC INFORMATION
HAS TOLD PAO ROKG IS CONSIDERING POSSIBLE STEPS AGAINST
JAPANESE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES IN SEOUL BECAUSE OF
PRESS LEAKS ON PRESIDENT PARK' S POLICY STATEMENT.
2. MINISTER SAID HE WAS WAITING FOR A FULLER
REPORT FROM THE MOFA, BUT HIS OWN MINISTRY FELT VERY
STRONGLY THAT THE JAPANESE PRESS HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN
LEAKING IMPORTANT NEWS AND DISPLAYING PARTIALITY
TOWARD NORTH KOREA IN ITS NEWS TREATMENT. (E. G. KOREANS
BELIEVE JAPANESE PRESS GAVE MORE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO
KIM IL- SONG RESPONSE THAN TO PARK' S STATEMENT .)
3. FONMIN KIM HAS ALSO DIRECTLY EXPRESSED TO
AMBASSADOR HIS UNHAPPINESS ABOUT AMBASSADOR USHIROKU' S
BACKGROUNDER (REFTEL) AND SUBSEQUENT JAPANESE PRESS
LEAKS. FONMIN WRYLY NOTED EARLY NOTIFICATION OF
JAPANESE HAD BEEN AT U. S. INSISTENCE.
4. COMMENT: IT IS APPARENT THAT ROKG " SUCCESS"
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IN EXPELLING THE RESIDENT YOMIURI CORRESPONDENT LAST
YEAR LEADS THEM TO BELIEVE THEY MAY BE SIMILARLY
SUCCESSFUL IN THIS INSTANCE ALSO. WHILE NOT HOPEFUL,
WE ARE CAUTIONING KOREANS AGAINST OVER- REACTION
TO JAPANESE PRESS LEAKS.
HABIB

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TOKYO
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